

## Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 NIC-01 IO-14 /134 W

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R 090316Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL MILAN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3081

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 7480

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, PFOR, TH, UR

SUBJ: MAYOR OF BANGKOK

REF: A. BANGKOK 2586 (NOTAL)

B. BANGKOK 6605 (NOTAL)

1. AT WISUT-YOTHAPHIBAN, THE GOVERNOR OF BANGKOK AND ITS TWIN CITY OF THONBURI (KNOWN COLLECTIVELY AS THE BANGKOK METROPOLIS), WILL MAKE AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO MOSCOW FROM 27 MAY UNTIL 1 JUNE 1974. THE INVITATION COMES FROM MOSCOW MAYOR VLADIMIR FEDOROVITCH PROMYSLOV, WHO VISITED BANGKOK LAST FEBRUARY 7-9 ON HIS RETURN FROM HANOI (REFTEL A). AT WILL ATTEND A CONFERENCE ON CITY PLANNING AND SANITATION, AND INTENDS TO OBSERVE USSR EFFORTS AT TOWN PLANNING AND LOCAL ADMINISTRATION. ON HIS WAY TO MOSCOW HE WILL ATTEND A THREE DAY CONFERENCE ON URBAN TECHNOLOGY IN MILAN. AT CONCURRENTLY SERVES IN THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AS DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE LAND DEPARTMENT, AND IS A MEMBER OF THE APPOINTED NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THAILAND THAT IS SCRUTINIZING THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION. TWO OTHER BANGKOK METROPOLIS OFFICIALS, UNDER SECRETARY KHUNYING (TITLE FOR DISTINGUISHED WOMEN) NANTHAKA SUPANAKANAN AND GENERAL SECRETARY MR. CHAO SANGTHONG

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WILL ACCOMPANY AT.

2. AT WAS BORN 18 JUNE 1915. HE HAS A BACHELORS DEGREE IN LAW AND POLITICS FROM BANGKOK'S THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY, AND HAS SPENT ALMOST HIS ENTIRE CAREER IN THE FIELD OF LOCAL ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR. THE U.S. MISSION IN THAILAND HAS MAINTAINED CLOSE CONTACT WITH AT FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS, AND CONSIDERS HIM KNOWLEDGEABLE AND CREATIVE IN HIS FIELD. HE WAS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE COTERIE OF EXILED FORMER DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF INTERIOR FIELD MARSHAL PRAPHAT CHARUSATHIAN, AND SHOULD BE REGARDED AS A MEMBER OF THE CONSERVATIVE, ANTI-COMMUNIST, OLD GUARD ELEMENT IN THAILAND, WHICH WIDELY RESPECTS HIM. HE IS AN HONEST, EFFECTIVE, RELATIVELY PROGRESSIVE AND THOUGHTFUL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL WHO HAS PROBABLY REACHED THE PINNACLE OF HIS CAREER. HE RETIRES IN OCTOBER 1975 AT THE MANDATORY AGE OF 60.

3. AT IS MARRIED, HIS WIFE'S NAME IS YOPIN, AND HE HAS FOUR CHILDREN. HE ENJOYS GOLF. HE SPEAKS FAIR ENGLISH, WHICH IS ADEQUATE FOR SOCIAL PURPOSES BUT NOT FOR DISCUSSING SUBJECTS IN DEPTH. HIS NAME IS OFTEN SPELLED ADT VISUTRA-YOTHAPIBAL, BUT IS PRONOUNCED AHT WEE-SOOT-YO-TAH-PEE-BAHN. THAI ARE ADDRESSED BY THEIR FIRST NAME (E.G. MR. AT).

4. COMMENT: BOTH AT AND THE KING'S ELDER SISTER, PRINCESS GALYANI WATTANA, WILL BE IN THE SOVIET UNION DURING MAY. A KEY FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL, WHO SHED FURTHER LIGHT THAN THAT CONTAINED IN REFTEL B ON THE PRINCESS' VISIT, SAID THAT HE HAD RECENTLY TALKED WITH HER AND THAT HER INTERESTS WERE CULTURAL. SHE HAS CONSIDERABLE LINGUISTIC SKILLS AND TEACHES EUROPEAN LANGUAGES AT THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY. SHE IS FLUENT IN ENGLISH, FRENCH, AND GERMAN AND WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE. SOME OF HER ROYAL COUSINS, WHO HAD RECENTLY VISITED THE SOVIET UNION PRIVATELY, HAD PIQUED HER CURIOSITY ABOUT ITS CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS, PARTICULARLY LENINGRAD. WE DO NOT VIEW EITHER OF THESE VISITS AS A SIGN THAT THE RTG HAS ADOPTED AN OFFICIAL POLICY OF GETTING COZY WITH THE SOVIET UNION. WHILE THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S PUBLIC STANCE

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IS THAT THAILAND IS READY TO BE FRIENDS WITH ANY COUNTRY THAT EXHIBITS A FRIENDLY ATTITUDE TOWARD THAILAND, THE THAI RETAIN HEALTHY SUSPICIONS ABOUT SOVIET MOTIVES.

KINTNER

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## Message Attributes

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